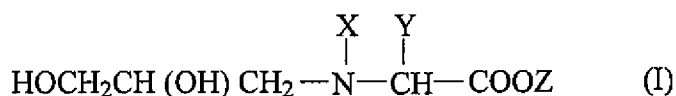


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification on page 2, line 8 through line 22 as follows:

The inventors of the invention have extensively studied to solve problems described above, and found that cosmetics containing amino acid N-glyceryl derivative represented by the following formula (I) or salt thereof;



, wherein X represents hydrogen atom, -CH₂CH(OH)CH₂OH group or alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, Y represents a side chain of a ~~amine~~ an α-amino acid, and Z represent hydrogen atom, alkali metal, ammonium, organic ammonium or -CH₂CH(OH)CH₂OH group, have excellent moisturizing effect, applicability, stability and safety, impart advantageous effects on skin care cosmetics, such as excellent skin affinity, less stickiness to skin and moist skin feel, and impart advantageous effects on hair cosmetics, such as gloss, moist feel, improving combability and smoothness; and have accomplished the present invention.

Please amend the specification on page 4, line 14 through line 18 as follows:

The amino acid N-glyceryl derivative represented by the formula (I) or salt thereof which is contained in the cosmetics of the present invention, can be obtained by reacting, for example, ~~a-amine~~ an α-amino acid represented by the formula (II) or salt thereof with glycidol or 3-halo-1,2-propanediol.

Please amend the specification on page 4, line 27 through page 5, line 8 as follows:

Examples of the ~~a-amine~~ an α-amino acid represented by the formula (II) which is the starting material for the compound represented by the formula (I) include neutral amino acids such as glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, serine, threonine, phenylalanine, tyrosine,

tryptophan, sarcosine, N-methylalanine, ~~a-aminobutyric~~ α -aminobutyric acid, cystine, methionine, cysteine, proline, hydroxyproline and the like; ~~basic amino acids such as lysine, hydroxylysine, arginine, histidine, ornithine and the like; and acidic amino acids such as aspartic acid, and glutamic acid and the like.~~

Please amend the specification on page 5, line 9 through line 13 as follows:

Examples of another starting materials which produce the compound represented by the formula (I) by reacting with the ~~a-amine~~ α -amino acid represented by the formula (II) include glycidol (i.e. 2,3-epoxy-1-propanol), 3-halo-1,2-propanediol such as 3-chloro-1,2-propanediol and 3-bromo-1,2-propanediol.

Please amend the specification on page 5, line 14 through line 25 as follows:

The reaction of ~~a-amine~~ α -amino acid represented by the formula (II) or salt thereof with glycidol or 3-halo-1,2-propanediol in order to produce amino acid N-glyceryl derivative represented by the formula (I) or salt thereof, can be carried out in water solvent or organic solvents containing water, under the presence of alkali. Specifically, the ~~a-amine~~ α -amino acid represented by the formula (II) is dissolved in water solvent or an organic solvent containing water and pH of this solution is adjusted, followed by being subjected to reaction, while being heated and agitated, by dropwise addition of glycidol or 3-halo-1,2-propanediol, and then, after the reaction being completed, pH of the reactant is adjusted with an acidic agent to obtain an amino acid N-glyceryl derivative.

Please amend the specification on page 6, line 12 through line 21 as follows:

Depending on the kind of ~~a-amine~~ α -amino acid represented by the formula (II), alkali agents or acid agents may be appropriately employed to adjust the pH in a range of 8 to 11. Examples of the alkali agents employed include potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, lithium

hydroxide, sodium carbonate and potassium carbonate. Examples of the acid agents employed include organic acids such as acetic acid, lactic acid, glycolic acid, citric acid, malic acid, tartaric acid, succinic acid and adipic acid; and inorganic acids such as hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid and phosphoric acid.